of intent are at various stages of implementation. No definite time schedule for completion of these projects can be indicated.

**Modernisation of Bidhanbag Unit of BALCO**

2955. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased-to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to modernise the Bidhanbag' unit of BALCO at Jaykaynagar; and

if so, the details thereof and if not. t'he reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR); (a) and (b) The for-sick unit of Aluminium Corporation of India Ltd. (ALUCOIN) ai Jaykaynagar in West Bengal in private sector was nationalised through an Act of Parliament and d in Bharat Aluminium jCom-pany Ltd. (BALCO) on 2nd June, 1984. After nationalisation this unit was renamed as Bidhanbag Unit of BALCO. CO has been operating ion facilities producing Rolled Extrusions, Foils and Con- As. The annual production ty of the above products was d at 6400 tonnes. However, due to obsolescence of the plant and annual production has 023 tonnes during 1985-86, 2475 during 1986-87 and 1607 tonnes : For the year 1988-80, get of 2000 tonnes only has been fixed. BALCO has oronosals to modernise the exiting fabrication facilities at Bidhanbag Unil in Stases, view its fii resources, etc. in a phase has bean mad initiating action on modernisation or the conductor plant. This is proposed to be followed bv modernisation of other units like extrusion and foil plants to produce value added items. 998 RiS—3.

**Selection of Pressmen/Newsmen to accompany Prime Minister on Foreign Tours**

2956. f3HRI| SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be oleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for selection of pressmen/newsmen for accompanying the Prime Minister on foreign tours;

(b) whether all the regional languages are given representation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN TARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to c) The main criterian is to secure the best possible coverage for the visit. Weightage is given to pev|sons having adequate experience in. covering international affairs, PM's engagements, etc. To xtent possible renresentation is "iven to regional language news papers.

**Pvoblems of Bidhanbag Unit of BALCo**

2957. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the (Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state-.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bidhanbag unit of Bharat Aluminium Company (BALCO) at Jaykaynagar is plagued with Major problems like lack of orders, investment and raw mate-rials;

*Co)* if so, the details thereof; and

(c) 'the steps taken by Government to ease the problems facing the company?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) to (c) The formerly

sick unit of Aluminium Corporation of India Ltd. (ALUCOIN) at Jaykay-nagar in West Bengal in the private sector was nationalised through an Act of Parliament and vested in Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO) on 2nd June, 1984. After nationaisation this unit was renamed as Bidhanbag Unit fo BALCO.

There is no problem of raw-materials. However, problem of inadequacy of orders in certain areas like rolling mill and foils exist due to poor quality and limited product range from these units arising from old and out-dated machinery and equipment. To overcome this problem, BALCO has proposals to modernise the existing fabrication facilities at Bidhanbag Unit in stages, keeping in view its financial resources, etc. in a phased manner. A beginning has been made by initiating action on modernisation of the conductor plant. This is proposed to be followed by modernisation of other units like extrusion and foil plants to produce value added items.

**Livestock Development Scheme**

2958. SHRI JAGADISH JANI.- Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state-.

(a) whether Government had introduced some livestock develop ment schemes in different States;

(b) whether any such scheme had been introduced in Orissa; and

(c) if so. when and the livestock development programme undertaken) under-those schemes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) $t_0$ (c) Various Livestock Development Schemes were introduced in the different States including Orissa State during different Five Year Plans. Following are the various Central Sector livestock development programmes undertaken in the Orissa State during the last three year

(i) extension of frozen semen technology for catitle and buffalo development outside operation flood areas;

Oi) coordinated cattle breeding and associated herd progeny testing for production of proven bulls;

fiii) special livestock breeding programme;

(iv) systematic control of livestock diseases of national importance;:

(v) rinderpest eradication/surveillance and containment vaccination programme:

(vi) foot and mouth disease control programme;

(vii) animal disease surveillance;

(viii) production of cell culture viral vaccine and diagnostic reagents;

(ix) Indian veterinary council;

(x) integrated sample surveys for estimation of mafar livestock products;

(xi) establishment of . backyard poultry production units for the benefit of rural poor and providing employment opportunities to women in backward/tribal and other remote areas;

(xii) to provide financial assistance to state level poultry corporation/federations.

**AIR Stations in Orissa**

2959. SHRT JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister $_0$f INFORMATION AND BROADCASTNG be pleased to state-.

(a) the number of AIR Station set up in Orissa as on 30th June, 1988;